



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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Tasmanian Census Collectors take to the streets

Tasmania's 709 Census Collectors will begin delivering forms to more than 213,000 households across the State today.

Australian Bureau of Statistics' Tasmanian Regional Director Dick Crockett said the Census is an opportunity to redefine our changing communities.

"In Tasmania, the social landscape is rapidly evolving. New migrants, shifting populations and apartment living could emerge as interesting trends in Census 2006," Mr Crockett said.

"We need to understand these changes in order for decision makers and communities to plan for the future.

"Creating a portrait of each and every region in Australia is vital to ensuring decisions on funding and delivery arrangements for services and infrastructure are based on local need, not only for today, but the expected need for future communities."

Mr Crockett paid tribute to Census Collectors who will be out in all weathers delivering and collecting forms seven days a week until August 28.

"We are especially grateful to our field staff for playing their very important role in making the Census a success. They are our heroes - without them the Census just could not take place," he said.

Census form delivery will continue right up until the day before the Census and people shouldn't worry if they don't receive a form in the next week or so.

Collectors can be identified by their bright yellow satchels and official identification badge (including photograph). Census collectors are not required to enter household premises in the course of their duties.

Anyone who is not wearing their identification badge or insists on entering the household is not a Census Collector.

Census Collectors have been trained to assist and advise householders on filling in Census forms. A booklet entitled "How to complete your Census form" accompanies all Census forms. The booklet includes answers to the most commonly asked questions and also explains the use of the information collected.

For this Census, people have the option of filling their form out online with the eCensus. Instructions for using this option are included in the booklet.

The information provided in the Census will remain entirely confidential. By law, the ABS is not allowed to release any information that can identify an individual.

It will soon be time to do your homework on Census night! Tasmanians have given us great support in past Censuses. We are very grateful for that and we look forward to their cooperation in this Census.

Further information is available at www.abs.gov.au/census or call the Census Inquiry Service on 1300 362 883.

MEDIA INFORMATION: Media requests and interviews

Census Inquiry Service - phone 1300 362 883

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